



Understanding the Ozone Forecast

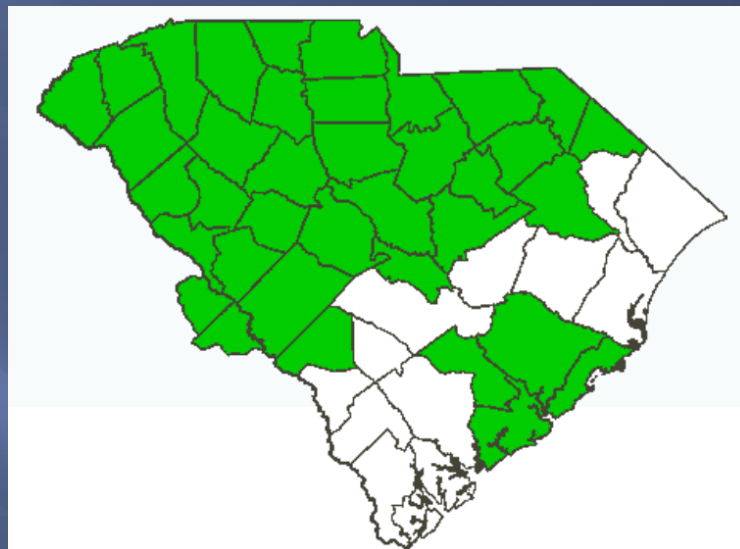
-Ground level ozone (also called smog) is formed when two chemicals – nitrogen dioxide and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) - react with sunlight. Sources of nitrogen dioxides and VOCs include cars, power plants, and other manufacturing facilities.

-Ozone irritates your respiratory system, reduces lung function and aggravates asthma.

-The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) provides a regional ozone forecast through the Air Quality Index (AQI).

-The ozone forecasting season runs from April 1 through September 30. The daily forecast can be found on SCDHEC's website at www.scdhec.gov/ozone

Ground-level Ozone Forecast for 7/06/2015



-On days forecasted to be high ozone level days, you can help reduce the formation of ozone by:

1. Telecommuting
2. Ridesharing or Carpooling
3. Walking or Biking
4. Implementing an Alternative Work Schedule
5. Using Mass Transit

What do the AQI colors mean?

Air Quality Index (AQI)	AQI Color Code	Cautionary Statement
0 - 50	Good	No health effects are expected.
51 - 100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion.
101 - 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
151 - 200	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
201 - 300	Very Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.